

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reported by: Report A of the Committee.

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
117TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 407, L.D. 1095, Bill, "An Act to Provide Equal Political Rights for Classified State Employees"

Amend the bill in section 4 by inserting at the end the following:

5. Participation in political fund raising. An officer or employee in the classified service of this State may not:

A. Solicit, accept or receive political contributions; or

B. Organize, sell tickets to, promote or actively participate in a fund-raising activity of a candidate for partisan political office or of a political party or partisan political group.

6. Participation in political campaigning. An officer or employee in the classified service of this State may not:

A. Take an active part in managing the political campaign of a candidate for partisan political office or a candidate for political party office;

B. Campaign for partisan political office;

C. Canvass for votes in support of or in opposition to a candidate for partisan political office or a candidate for political party office, if such canvassing is done in concert with such a candidate, or of a political party, or partisan political group;

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2 D. Endorse or oppose a candidate for partisan political
3 office or a candidate for political party office in a
4 political advertisement, broadcast, campaign literature or
5 similar material if such endorsement or opposition is done
6 in concert with such a candidate, political party or
7 partisan political group; or

8 E. Initiate or circulate a partisan nominating petition.

10 7. Participation in elections. An officer or employee in
11 the classified service of this State may not:

14 A. Act as recorder, watcher, challenger or similar officer
15 at polling places in consultation or coordination with a
16 political party, partisan political group or a candidate for
17 partisan political office; or

18 B. Drive voters to polling places in consultation or
19 coordination with a political party, partisan political
20 group or a candidate for partisan political office.

22 8. Participation in political organizations. Each officer
23 or employee in the classified service of this State retains the
24 right to:

25 A. Participate in the nonpartisan activities of a civic,
26 community, social, labor, professional or similar
27 organization;

28 B. Be a member of a political party or other partisan
29 political group and participate in its activities to the
30 extent consistent with other state laws;

31 C. Attend a political convention, rally, fund-raising
32 function or other political gathering; and

33 D. Make financial contribution to a political party,
34 partisan political group or to the campaign committee of a
35 candidate for partisan political office.

36 9. Candidacy for elective office. An officer or employee
37 in the classified service of this State may not be a candidate
38 for elective office in a partisan public election other than for
39 a local office. Law enforcement officers continue to be subject
40 to departmental rules regarding procedures on candidacy for
41 elective partisan office.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment restricts political fund raising and participation in political campaigns and elections, clarifies when and how a classified employee may participate in political organizations and continues the current law that prohibits a member of the classified service from running for partisan elective office.